

Appl. No. 10/573,042
Reply to Office Action of May 13, 2008
Amendment dated August 13, 2008

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An indoor unit of an air conditioner, comprising:
 - a main body casing;
 - a front grill provided forward of the main body casing and having a first opening;
 - a first movable panel configured to move so as to open and close the first opening;
 - a drive portion configured to generate a driving force to move the first movable panel;

and

an opening and closing mechanism provided at the front grill and configured to move the first movable panel by the driving force of the drive portion to open and close the first opening[.].;

the opening and closing mechanism includes a first opening and closing mechanism for moving one end of the first movable panel by the driving force of the drive portion, and a second opening and closing mechanism for moving the other end of the first movable panel by the driving force of the drive portion,

the opening and closing mechanism is configured so as to distribute the driving force from the drive portion to the first opening and closing mechanism and the second opening and closing mechanism.

2. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

at least when mounting the front grill to the main body casing, the drive portion is provided in the main body casing.

3. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the opening and closing mechanism includes a supporting member mounted to the first movable panel to support the first movable panel.

4. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the opening and closing mechanism includes a speed reducing mechanism for transmitting the driving force of the drive portion to the first movable panel.

5. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the opening and closing mechanism includes a converting mechanism for converting a rotary motion transmitted from the drive portion to opening and closing movements of the first movable panel.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 6, wherein

the first opening and closing mechanism and the second opening and closing mechanism each are formed as a unit.

8. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 7, wherein

the first opening and closing mechanism and the second opening and closing mechanism are provided such that they are respectively fixed to inner surfaces of left and right sides of the said front grill.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the front grill further includes a second opening,
the indoor unit further includes a second movable panel capable of moving so as to open and close the second opening, and

the opening and closing mechanism moves the first movable panel to open and close the first opening and also moves the second movable panel to open and close the second opening by the driving force of the drive portion.

11. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the main body casing includes a second gear disposed so as to engage with a first gear included in the opening and closing mechanism in a state in which the front grill is mounted to the main body casing, and configured to transmit the driving force of the drive portion to the opening and closing mechanism.

12. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the main body casing is provided with a control component,

the drive portion includes a motor connected to the control component and configured to move the first movable panel,

the main body casing includes a temporary fixing portion for temporarily fixing the drive portion, and

the front grill includes a fixing portion for fixing the drive portion that is temporarily fixed.

13. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 12, wherein

the drive portion is temporarily fixed with the temporary fixing portion such that the drive portion is capable of moving to a position where the drive portion is to be fixed with the fixing portion when the drive portion is fixed with the fixing portion.

14. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 12, wherein

the temporary fixing portion includes a clip portion for holding the drive portion and temporarily fixing the drive portion.

15. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 2, wherein

the opening and closing mechanism includes a supporting member mounted to the first movable panel to support the first movable panel.

16. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 2, wherein

the opening and closing mechanism includes a speed reducing mechanism for transmitting the driving force of the drive portion to the first movable panel.

17. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 2, wherein

the opening and closing mechanism includes a converting mechanism for converting a rotary motion transmitted from the drive portion to opening and closing movements of the first movable panel.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 2, wherein

the front grill further includes a second opening,
the indoor unit further includes a second movable panel capable of moving so as to open and close the second opening, and

the opening and closing mechanism moves the first movable panel to open and close the first opening and also moves the second movable panel to open and close the second opening by the driving force of the drive portion.

21. (New) The indoor unit of the air conditioner according to claim 1, wherein

the first opening is an intake port,
the front grill further includes an outlet portion,

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the first movable panel moves so as to open and close the intake port,

the indoor unit further includes a second movable panel, the second movable panel configured to move so as to open and close the outlet portion, the second movable panel is different from the first movable panel, and

the opening and closing mechanism moves the first movable panel so as to open and close the intake port and also moves the second movable panel so as to open and close the outlet portion, the opening and closing mechanism further distributes the driving force of the drive portion so as to move the first movable panel and the second movable panel.